

REMARKS/ARGUMENT

Request for Continued Examination:

A Request for Continued Examination has been submitted herewith.

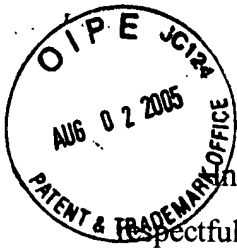
Regarding the Claims in General:

Claims 1-12 and 21 remain pending. Claim 1 has been amended to eliminate a possible misinterpretation of the claim, as discussed below, and to incorporate the amendments proposed in the communication dated July 19, 2005. The other claims remain unchanged. As amended, claim 1 recites more explicitly what was already at least implicit in the claim as previously presented, and therefore its scope would not be changed for statutory purposes related to patentability.

Regarding the Personal Interview Held July 28, 2005:

Applicants' representative gratefully acknowledges the courtesy and assistance afforded to him by Examiner Alie during the interview. The Examiner's Interview Summary accurately reflects the substance of the matters discussed. Expanding, however, relative to claim 1, the Examiner took the position that, as written, the claim could be interpreted as covering vertical orientation of the elements whereby the film holder would, under certain conditions, be "between" the feeding device and the trimming device. Applicants' representative took the position that such an interpretation was incorrect, and strained, at best, and in any case, inconsistent with the final limitation of the claim. Nevertheless, to advance the prosecution, and to eliminate the possibility of such an improper and unintended interpretation, claim 1 has been amended to specify that film holder is between the linear feeding device and the trimming device *on the in-feed side of the trimming device*.

As stated in the Interview Summary, claim 1 amended in this manner overcomes the outstanding rejections based on the Price and Kropf patents. It is understood that the Examiner will take further action accordingly.



In view of the foregoing, favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully solicited.

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail to Addressee (mail label #EV342541186US) in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on August 2, 2005:

Dorothy Jenkins

Name of Person Mailing Correspondence

Dorothy Jenkins

Signature

August 2, 2005

Date of Signature

LAH:lac

Respectfully submitted,

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